

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

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Notice of Intent to Issue

Funding Opportunity Announcement No.: DE-FOA-0000033

Recovery Act: Site Characterization of Promising Geologic Formations for CO₂ Storage

In carrying out the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Department of Energy (DOE), National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), intends to issue this FOA on behalf of the DOE Office of Fossil Energy. This FOA will identify funding to support comprehensive regional site characterization of a minimum of 10 distinct “high-potential” geologic formations. It is anticipated this FOA will be available in May 2009. The FOA will be full and open competition for all types of entities except for other Federal agencies, Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) Contractors, and nonprofit organizations described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that engaged in lobbying activities after December 31, 1995. A National Laboratory is not eligible for an award under this announcement, but may be proposed as a team member subject to the following: The National Laboratory(ies) effort, in aggregate, shall not exceed 25% of the total estimated cost of the project, including the applicant’s and the FFRDC contractor’s portions of the effort.

DOE envisions awarding multiple financial assistance awards in the form of cost-shared cooperative agreements. The number of applications selected for negotiations leading to award is anticipated at approximately 10, but may depend on quality of applications submitted and the availability of funds. The estimated period of performance for each award will be three years. Non-federal cost share will be required for all recipients. The specific amount of non-federal cost share will be identified in the FOA.

The objectives of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will be to develop comprehensive data sets of formation characteristics (porosity, permeability, injectivity, reservoir architecture, cap rock integrity, etc.); to determine usefulness of potential geologic storage sites; to augment existing data sets and refine best practices for approving storage site selection; and to characterize a minimum of 10 distinct “high-potential” geologic formations. Geologic formations to be evaluated can include saline formations, depleting/depleted oil fields, or coal seams. The formation selected for characterization should represent a significant storage opportunity in the region with adequate seals to protect against adverse impacts on the overlying formation or risks to Underground Sources of Drinking Water (USDW) and the surface. The projects will also support the President’s Energy Goals: develop and deploy near zero emission coal technologies; make the U.S. a leader on climate change; transfer Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS) technology globally; reduce our greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050; and increase CCS technology funding.

An awareness of current and completed research and development activities in the carbon sequestration area will be important to achieving the proper balance of integration with other funded activities. The DOE's Office of Fossil Energy (FE)'s Carbon Sequestration Program involves two key elements for technology development and research: 1) Core R&D and 2) Infrastructure. The Core R&D element contains five focal areas for carbon sequestration technology development: 1) Capture, 2) Geologic Carbon Storage, 3) Monitoring, Verification, and Accounting (MVA), 4) CO₂ Use/Reuse, and 5) Simulation and Risk Assessment. Core R&D is driven by technology needs and is accomplished through laboratory and pilot-scale research aimed at developing new technologies and new systems for greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation. The Infrastructure element includes large-scale projects and the Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships (RCSPs) (http://www.netl.doe.gov/technologies/carbon_seq/index.html).

The following, Submission and Registration Requirements, which will be included in the FOA, is being provided for your convenience. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to register at these sites provided to receive notification of announcements posted by NETL. When the FOA is released, applications will only be received through Fed Connect which can be found at https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/PublicPages/FedConnect_Ready_Set_Go.pdf.

SUBMISSION AND REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Where to Submit

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH FEDCONNECT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR AWARD. Submit electronic applications through the FedConnect portal. Information regarding how to submit applications via Fed Connect can be found at https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/PublicPages/FedConnect_Ready_Set_Go.pdf.

Further, it is the responsibility of the applicant, prior to the offer due date and time, to verify successful transmission.

2. Registration Process

There are several one-time actions you must complete in order to submit an application in response to this Announcement (e.g., obtain a DUNS number, register with the CCR, and register with FedConnect). Applicants who are not registered with CCR and FedConnect, should allow at least 10 days to complete these requirements. It is suggested that the process be started as soon as possible.